Chinoiserie Roombox

1/4" Scale Dollhouse kit



Before you begin anything, I highly recommend that you dry fit the main pieces and read the instructions through so that you have an idea of how everything fits together. This will make it much easier in the long run, trust me. The roombox is designed to be constructed in layers to make it easier to install wallpaper and finishing touches.

If you have ANY questions, please email me at samanthacreations@sbcglobal.net.



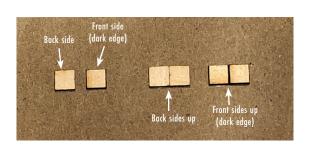
If possible include photos to make it easier to understand what you are asking.

There is a "Work Along" available for an older version of this kit that may be helpful for some of the interior bits. The outside box has been reworked and is different from the videos.





• Remove the piece of brown card stock from your kit. Draw a line down the middle going in both directions. Pay extra attention to making sure that these lines are perpendicular to each other and the paper edges. This will be the guide lines for the floor tiles.





*** Before you start gluing down floor tiles I want to point something out that will help make your floor prettier. ***

My laser cutter creates a very slight angle when it cuts. If you look closely at the front side of a tile you will see a dark edge. You want to glue this side down. By doing this you will get a much tighter fit and a more finished look.



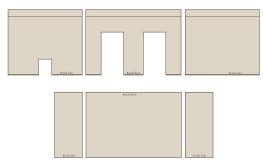
- Beginning in the middle, glue the floor tile to the card stock. Make sure that you alternate the direction of the wood grains to create your checker board pattern. I find it easiest to glue down the center lines going both directions and then fill in from there.
- * You can also start from the back edge but I would still start in the middle and work my way out.







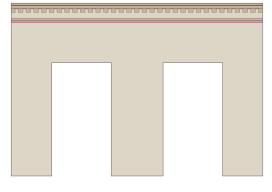






- When you are finished, you will have a little excess wood on the ends. Just trim to the size of the card stock. You may have a little excess paper on the front side. You can trim this off if you wish. It's not going to show.
- Stain the floor the color of your choice. Once stain has had time to set, spray the floor with Deft.

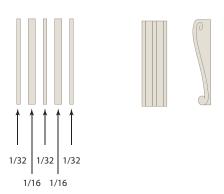
 I spray a fairly heavy coat. The piece will look wet. Allow to dry and buff with 0000 steel wool. Repeat this step two more times for a total of three coats.
- Take out the bag that contains the wainscoting panels, the door frames, and strips of wood. There are two types of strips, one is plain and one has a line scored down the middle.
- Assemble the wainscoting as shown in the photo and diagram. I glue several panels on a strip of wood at a time and then trim them down to size when the glue is dry. Once assembled, set aside to dry. Hang on to the leftover strips with the scored line. You will use those for your crown moulding.
- Take out the two pieces marked "Inside Back" and four pieces marked "Inside Side". You will glue the side pieces to the back pieces as shown in the diagram. Make sure the scored lines line up. Set aside to dry.

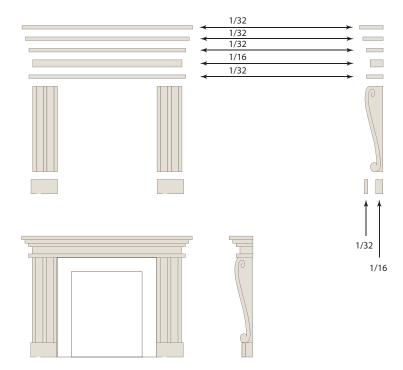






- Take out your wallpaper and give it a spray coat of Deft. Set aside to dry.
- Pull out the leftover strips from the wainscoting and glue a strip just above the scored rule on all three sides of the larger inside assembly.
- Take out the bag with the dentil moulding pieces and other strips. Glue a piece of dentil moulding along the top edge of the larger inside assembly. Glue a strip on top of the dentil moulding, flush with the top edge of the box. See the diagram.
- Paint all the trim you've just installed and the area between. Paint the inside of the door openings and the door frames as well. Go ahead and paint the wainscoting and the eight door pieces since you're on a roll now.
- Trim out the wallpaper along the edge of the image. It is already measured for you. Do no cut out the marble on the one side. This will be your fireplace surround. You will cut the opening for the fireplace once the glue has dried from gluing in the wallpaper.
- Glue the wallpaper in place. It will butt up to the bottom of the moulding you created. When the glue has dried, trim out the fireplace opening.
- Assemble the fireplace according to the diagram below and paint it as well.

















- Glue the pieces marked Bottom as shown in the photo. Keep all the type facing up so that you know you are gluing everything in the correct position. Do the same with the corresponding pieces marked top. Do not glue the larger pieces marked B and T or the funky pieces with the arcs at this time.
- When the glue has dried, glue your larger inside wall assembly to the side of the bottom piece that
 does not have any type.
- Trim out the garden scene from your wallpaper sheet. Again, no measuring is need. Just trim along the edges.
- When gluing these pieces in you will notice that they are long. Decide whether you want the excess at the top or bottom, doesn't matter which just make sure the picture matches on the sides. When the glue is dry trim off the excess. Do not glue in this assembly yet.
- Glue your flooring in place. It will fit up against the back wall.
- Trim out the small marble piece and glue it on the floor in the fireplace opening. Glue your fireplace in place, centering it on the marble. Glue your door frames in. You may need to trim your door frames from the bottom ever so slightly so that they are flush with the opening.
- Fit the wainscoting pieces and glue in place. The smooth flat bit goes on the bottom. These pieces are intentionally a smidgen big to allow for a tight fit. *Carefully*, trim/sand to size. You can notch the ends for a better fit.



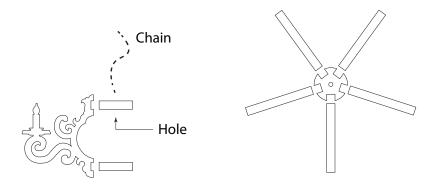








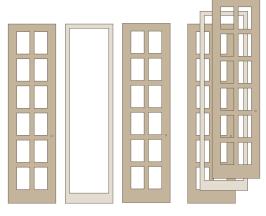
- Pull out the tile floor piece. You will need to cut about 1/4" off the back of this piece. Measure it against your small inside wall assembly. The main part of the tile piece should be just as deep as this assembly. Paint to look like slate or stone. I use a combo of dry brushing with a watered down wash over individual tiles. When paint has dried, spray it with a good coat of Deft.
 - Glue into place with the notched areas fitting in your door openings.
 - Glue the garden assembly in place, flush up against the stone work. Allow to dry.
- Once dry, install any garden decor you want to use. I added some greenery around the edges to blend into the garden scene, then added a bench and some planters.
- Glue the ceiling medallion in place, aligning the center hole with the hole in the ceiling. A toothpick through the hole can make alignment easier. Paint the entire ceiling. I used an off white/ivory.
- Assemble the chandelier and sconces according to the diagram. Don't glue the chain just yet though.
 Be careful with the glue you use because some super glues will cause the Plexiglas to fog up. I suggest using Ultimate Glue, E-6000, or G-S HypoCement. Go have a drink now while the glue dries on these.
 You deserve it.
- Once the glue has dried spray the chandelier and sconces gold. When the gold paint has dried, paint the candles white and the flames orange/yellow.
- Run your bulb up through the hole in the chandelier. Add a dab of glue on the top to hold the wire and bulb in place. If you wish you can glue the chain on now, but you can also just paint the twisted wires gold and call it a day.



Sconce













- Now it's time to create some door sandwiches. Consists of 4 pieces including the glass. The glass fits in the cut out of the middle piece that is in turn sandwiched between the two outer pieces.
- Once your glue has dried, glue the doors in place. I like to leave one door ajar to suggest that there is more going on outside. FYI, French doors typically open out. I googled it to make sure. If you leave the doors closed, I suggest gluing them together before installing them. It makes it easier to fit.
- Run the wires for the chandelier up through the hole in the ceiling medallion. Figure where you want the chandelier to hang and then tape in place down the groove from the back side. Run the wires for the other two bulbs up through the other holes in the ceiling piece until the bulbs are in as far as they go. Tape these wires in place as well. Run some glue along the grooves to hold the wires in place.

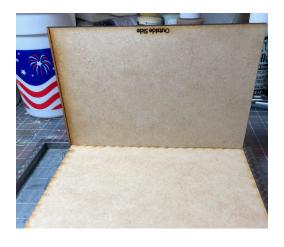


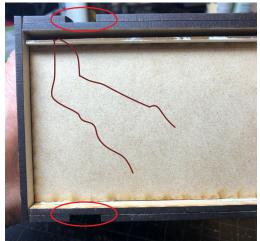






- While the glue on the wires is drying, go ahead and mount your wall sconces and anything else you might wish to hang over the fireplace. It'll be a lot easier to do it now than later when the ceiling is in place.
- The out the piece marked outside wall that has the etched line on the left side. Aligning your assembly so far up with that etched line, mark where you fireplace is and paint that area a dark color. When the pain dries, glue this piece onto your assembly so far, flush with the bottom and making sure that everything is to the right of the etched line.
- Before gluing the ceiling in, test all your bulbs to make sure they all work. You can do this by touching one wire to each side of the battery at the same time. It's very low voltage so you won't get a shock of any kind.
- Glue the ceiling in place. The front edge of the ceiling will align with the front edge of the inside box. The ceiling piece does not go all the way to the back. That's okay. You won't see it.
- Weight the ceiling so that it dries flat.









- Take out your remaining Outside Side piece and the Top pieces you glued together earlier. Now glue the Top pieces to the Outside Side piece as shown. These will be flush in the back and align with the etched line in the front.
- When those pieces have dried, glue them to your assembly so far. You want them flush on the back side and the top and bottom. There will be a gap between your ceiling and the top piece. Make sure your curved grooves are facing out and on the back end. Also make sure your wires are hanging out.
- Glue the piece marked T onto the top of your box flush with the top piece that is already there. There will be a tiny over hang of the sides where that etched line is and an overhang on the back. Make sure that the T is facing down and that you have not gotten any glue in the curved groove area.
- Glue the piece marked B to the bottom of your box. This time the piece is flush with the outside walls in the front and will have an overhang in th a back.









- Take the funkie arc shaped pieces and the piece marked Outside Back. Glue the arced pieces on to the Outside Back piece as shown. Make sure that when you are looking at the Outside Back piece where you can read the type that the arced pieces are both curving up in the same direction and the type on them is facing out.
- To connect the wiring, untwist the individual wires so that you can group all the green wires together and all the red wires together. Twist the ends of each group together.
- Slide a piece of shrink tube over the red wire on the switch. Twist the end of the red switch wire with the twisted ends of the red wires from your bulbs. Slide the shrink tube over the twisted wires and heat with a lit match or heat gun to shrink it in place. Repeat the process with the black and green wires.
- Put your battery in and press the switch to make sure everything works. You may want to tack down the switch and the battery pack to the back wall.
- Glue the frame on the front of the box. You will have a small gap on the top. This is where the glass will slide in.



• Once the glue has dried on the Outside Back piece you are going to very carefully insert the arced parts in to the notches left on the back of the box.. You will need to do a little finagling to get them in there. I've included a picture so you can see what is going on in there. This all creates a very nifty hidden hinge on your box.

















- Sand and paint. I painted mine a rich, dark brown, sanding lightly between coats. Make sure to get in all the nooks and crannies on the frame.
- When the paint is dry, you can either dry brush another color on the high spots of the frame or do like I did and use a little "Rub N Buff" on the finger and lightly rub along the surface.
- Slide in the glass with the paper still on it, and spray a coat of Deft over the box.
- Remove the glass, peel off the paper. Furnish your room and slide the glass back in.

Please send me photos of your finished room. I love to see what people have done with my kits!